NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS, P.C.

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- ALSO ADMITTED IN NJ
- ** ALSO ADMITTED IN CA *** ALSO ADMITTED IN NJ, DC & TX

January 29, 2008

VIA ECF

Honorable Frank Maas Room 740 Daniel Patrick Moynihan United States Courthouse 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Re: Chatie Graham v. J.B. Hunt Transport, et. al.

07-CV-11446 (RMB)(FM) Our Ref: NJBH 16388

Dear Judge Maas:

We are the attorneys for defendants J.B. Hunt Transport and James B. Tabor, and we write to ask that the court find that this case was properly removed to federal court. This court has jurisdiction over this matter under the diversity-of-citizenship statute. U.S.C. §§ 1332(a), 1441(a). Not only are the parties diverse, but there is a reasonable probability that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

The plaintiff filed a complaint alleging "severe and permanent personal injuries" as a result of a motor-vehicle accident involving the defendants' tractor trailer. See Exhibit A (notice of removal and complaint) at \P 23. Pursuant to New York's no fault law, the plaintiff claims (1) "serious injury" and (2) economic loss in excess of basic economic loss. *Id.* at \P 25. Finally, the plaintiff claims property damage in the amount of \$25,000.

On December 20, 2007, the defendants removed this action to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York under its diversity-of-citizenship jurisdiction. *See* Exhibit A. In the notice of removal, the defendants set forth that plaintiff is a citizen of the State of New York, that J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc. is a corporation incorporated in the State of Georgia, with its principal place of business in the State of Arkansas, and that James B. Tabor, the employee driver of the tractor-trailer, is a citizen of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. *Id.* at ¶¶ 2-3. The defendants alleged that the plaintiff claimed damages in excess of

NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS, P.C.

\$75,000. *Id.* at ¶ 4. At the initial pretrial conference held January 11, 2008, Judge Richard M. Berman directed all parties to submit letter briefs as to whether diversity-of-citizenship jurisdiction existed, and on January 29, 2008, all parties consented to determination of the issue by the Magistrate Judge. *See* Exhibit B.

The burden of establishing that jurisdiction exists lies with the removing defendant. See Mehlenbacher v. Akzo Nobel Salt, Inc., 216 F.3d 291, 296 (2nd Cir. 2000). Plaintiff's complaint sets forth \$25,000 in property damage but is silent as to the damages sought for personal injuries. This is because the Civil Practice Law and Rules section 3017(c) forbids the inclusion of an ad damnum clause in a personal injury case like this one. When the complaint does not specify an amount in controversy, the court looks to the notice of removal itself to see if the jurisdictional amount is alleged. See Williams v. Best Buy Co., 269 F.3d 1316, 1319 (11th Cir. 2001). The notice of removal in this case alleges in paragraph 4, "[t]he plaintiff seeks damages of more than \$75,000 and sought damages of more than \$75,000 when this action was started in state court." Exhibit A, notice of removal at ¶ 4.

That allegation of the amount in controversy is facially adequate because it is both "a short and plain statement of the grounds upon which the court's jurisdiction depends," *cf.* Fed R. Civ. P. 8(a), and patterned on Official Form 2(a), which is "sufficient under the rules and [is] intended to indicate the simplicity and brevity of statement that the rules contemplate," Fed. R. Civ. P. 84. Because the notice of removal is "signed pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure," 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), the court is assured that the amount-in-controversy allegation is warranted by existing law and is supported. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(b).

Were the court to look behind the complaint and see if the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, it should engage in fact-finding and receive evidence to establish whether jurisdiction exists. A good example of this practice exists in *Williams v. Best Buy*. There, the plaintiff sued to recover for a trip and fall at one of the defendant's stores. 269 F.3d at 1318. The plaintiff brought suit in state court, and the defendant removed the matter to federal court. *Id.* On appeal, the Eleventh Circuit *sua sponte* found that the record below failed to establish the amount in controversy sufficient to warrant subject-matter jurisdiction. *Id.* Rather than dismissing the matter outright, the Eleventh Circuit held that "[b]ecause Best Buy's notice of removal clearly asserted that the jurisdictional amount was satisfied, Best Buy should be afforded an opportunity to submit evidence in support of its assertion." *Id.* at 1321.

In deciding that the defendant was entitled to submit evidence in support of its allegations that over \$75,000 was in controversy, the *Williams* court relied on the Second Circuit case of *United Food & Commercial Workers Union v. Centermark Properties Meridian*, 30 F.3d 298 (2nd Cir. 1994), which stated that where a removing defendant alleges diversity jurisdiction, it has the right to prove the amount in controversy by submitting evidence:

Facing a similar situation, the Second Circuit held that the proper course of action under such circumstances is to remand the case to the district court for factual finds on the amount in controversy. The *United Food* court reasoned that, had the plaintiff challenged the amount in controversy by filing a motion to remand in the district court, 'the parties, under the direction of the district court,

NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS, P.C.

would have had an opportunity to supplement the record to allow for an informed decision on the issue.' Therefore, the Second Circuit found it 'only fair ... that the issue be remanded to the district court to allow the parties to submit evidence on the amount in controversy and to give defendants an opportunity to meet their burden as to this requirement of diversity jurisdiction.

Williams, 269 F.3d at 1320-21, citing to United Food, 30 F.3d at 306. In United Food, the court determined that "this record contains no supplementary submissions or estimates of what costs were incurred," and therefore found that a fact-finding, based on evidentiary submissions, was necessary. 30 F.3d at 306. Likewise in Mehlenbacher, the Second Circuit remanded a case to the district court for a factual determination as to the amount in controversy: "[b]ecause, on this record, we are unable to determine whether any or all of the plaintiffs met the required \$50,000 amount in controversy, we must remand to the district court to give Akzo an opportunity to make that showing." 216 F.3d 291 at 298.

In proving the amount in controversy, the removing defendant is not charged with demonstrating that plaintiff must be able to recover \$75,000, but rather, defendant is only required to establish a reasonable probability that plaintiff can recover over \$75,000. *See Frederico v. Home Depot*, 507 F.3d 188, 195, 197 (3rd Cir. 2007)("[A] case must be dismissed or remanded if it appears to a legal certainty that the plaintiff *cannot* recover more than the jurisdictional amount of \$75,000. The rule does not require the removing defendant to prove to a legal certainty the plaintiff can recover \$75,000—a substantially different standard"), *citing to St. Paul Mercury Indemnity Co. v. Red Cab Co.* ["Red Cab"], 303 U.S. 283, 58 S. Ct. 586, 82 L. Ed. 845 (1938), *Samuel-Bassett v. Kia Motors America*, 357 F.3d 392, 397-98 (3rd Cir. 2004), *Juarbe v. K-Mart Corp.*, 2005 WL 1994010, *1 (S.D.N.Y. 2005), *Raspa v. Home Depot*, 2007 WL 4569887, *6 (D.N.J. 2007); *cf. Scherer v. The Equitable Life Ass. Soc. of the U.S.*, 347 F.3d 394, 397 (2nd Cir. 2003).

Moreover, it is generally accepted that multiple claims by the same plaintiff arising out of the same transaction can be viewed collectively in determining whether diversity jurisdiction exists. *See Allen v. Toyota Motor Sales*, 155 Fed. Appx. 480, 482 (11th Cir. 2005)(reviewing all components of plaintiff's various damage claims to determine whether removing defendant had established the requisite amount in controversy), *Frederico*, 507 F.3d at 198-99 (finding removing defendant had met the amount in controversy requirement by adding together the compensatory damages, punitive damages and attorneys fees).

While no formal hearing has been ordered in this case, defendants hereby respectfully submit plaintiff's medical records documenting her injuries. *See* Exhibit C. Plaintiff's medical injuries allegedly attributable to the accident include a partial tear of the rotator cuff tendon, an arthroscopic surgery conducted on or about March 28, 2007, and three bulging cervical discs. Such injuries are frequently the subject of verdicts in excess of \$75,000

¹ Mehlenbacher also distinguished *Lupo v. Human Affairs Int'l, Inc.*, 28 F.3d 269 (2nd Cir. 1994). There, the removal notice had improperly asserted federal question jurisdiction, and did not address diversity until plaintiff's appeal, which had occurred when the litigation was in its 3rd year. There, the court summarily remanded the case to state court. Like *Mehlenbacher*, this matter is new, and diversity is the only basis for the removal. Hence *Lupo* is distinguishable and *Mehlenbacher* controls.

Case 1:07-cv-11446-FM Document 9 Filed 01/31/2008 Page 4 of 4

NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS, P.C.

in New York. *See Guillory v. Nautilus Real Estate, Inc.*, 208 A.D.2d 336, 624 N.Y.S.2d 110 (1st Dept. 1995)(\$1,200,000), *Bernstein v. Red Apple Supermarkets*, 227 A.D.2d 264 (1st Dept. 1996)(\$1,100,000), *Klimowich v. State of New York*, Claim No. 99495, Filed 10/10/02 (Ct. Claims New York)(\$200,450). Indeed, considering the plaintiff's claims of (1) severe and permanent personal injuries, (2) "severe injury" under the no fault law,² (3) economic damages in excess of basic economic loss,³ *and* (4) property damage in the amount of \$25,000, it is respectfully submitted that the amount in controversy unequivocally exceeds \$75,000. Indeed, plaintiff's demand at the pretrial conference (~\$185,000) was well in excess of \$75,000.

Therefore, we respectfully ask this Court to find that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 and that diversity jurisdiction exists in this matter.

Respectfully,

NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS

/s

Robert A. Fitch

RAF/DPT

cc: Via Fax (212-962-5050) and Regular Mail MARK E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C. Attorneys for the Plaintiff 111 Broadway, 9th Floor New York, New York 10006 (212) 962-2626

VIA ECF

United States District Court Southern District

_

² Section 5102(d) of the New York State Insurance Law sets forth that "'[s]erious injury' means a personal injury which results in death; dismemberment; significant disfigurement; a fracture; loss of a fetus; permanent loss of use of a body organ, member, function or system; permanent consequential limitation of use of a body organ or member; significant limitation of use of a body function or system; or a medically determined injury or impairment of a non-permanent nature which prevents the injured person from performing substantially all of the material acts which constitute such person's usual and customary daily activities for not less than ninety days during the one hundred eighty days immediately following the occurrence of the injury or impairment."

³ Section 5102(a) of the Insurance Law sets forth that basic economic loss is \$50,000. *See also Johnson-Kamara v. W. Chacon Trucking*, 2006 WL 336041, *2 (S.D.N.Y. 2006)(relying on plaintiff's claim that damages exceeded basic economic loss under New York's no fault law in the determination of whether or not defendant had demonstrated the amount in controversy).

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
CHATIE GRAHAM,
Plaintiff,
-against-
J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC., and JAMES B. TABOR,
Defendants.
11

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NOTICE OF REMOVAL

The defendants J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc. and James B. Tabor, removes this action from the Supreme Court, Orange County to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

- 1. The plaintiff commenced this action against J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc., and James B. Tabor in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Orange County. A copy of the complaint is attached as **Exhibit A.**
- 2. The plaintiff, Chatie Graham, is a citizen of the State of New York and was a citizen of the State of New York when this action was started in state court.
- 3. The defendants are citizens of states other than the State of New York and were citizens of states other than the State of New York when this action was started in state court.
- a) J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc. is (and was) a corporation incorporated in the State of Georgia with its principal place of business in the State of Arkansas.
 - b) James B. Tabor (and was) a citizen of the State of Kentucky.
- 4. The plaintiff seeks damages of more than \$75,000 and sought damages of more than \$75,000 when this action was started in state court.

5. This court has subject-matter jurisdiction over this action under section 1332(a)(1) of the Judicial Code, 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1), because this action—both now and when it was started—is between citizens of different states and the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

6. The defendants may, under section 1441(a) of the Judicial Code, 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a), remove this action to this court because this is a civil action of which the district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction that is brought in a state court

7. All defendants join in the removal of this action to this court.

Dated: New York, New York December 20, 2007

> Robert A. Fitch. (RF2198) Newman Fitch Altheim Myers, P.C. Attorneys for Defendant J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc. 14 Wall Street New York, New York 10005-2101 (212) 619-4350 JBH 16388

To: MARK E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff
111 Broadway, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10006
(212) 962-2626

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ORANGE

CHATIE GRAHAM,

Plaintiff,

-against-

J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. and JAMES B. TABOR,

Defendants.

Index No.: Date Purchased: 11/8/07

Plaintiffs designate Orange County as the place of trial.

The basis of venue is: residence of plaintiff

-----X Plaintiffs reside at: 22 Edgewood Terrace Newburgh, NY 12550 County of Orange

To the above named Defendants:

You are hereby summoned to answer the complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the state, or, within 30 days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated:

New York, New York October 29, 2007

> K E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff(s)

111 Broadway, 9th Floor New York, New York 10006

(212) 962-2626

TO:

J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. 4100 South Council Oklahoma City, OK 73179

JAMES B. TABOR 106 E. Main St. Bradfordsville, KY 40009 Aca 253

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ORANGE
CHATIE GRAHAM,

Plaintiff,

-aqainst-

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

MES 2007 - 10872

J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. and JAMES
B. TABOR,

Defendants.

Plaintiff, by her attorneys, MARK E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C., complaining of the Defendants, respectfully alleges, upon information and belief:

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- At all times herein mentioned, Plaintiff was, and still are, a resident of the County of Orange, State of New York, residing at 22 Edgewood Terrace, floor 1, Newburgh, New York 12550.
- 2. That at all times herein mentioned, the Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. was and still is a foreign business corporation duly authorized to do business in the State of New York.
- 3. That at all times herein mentioned, the Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC., maintained an address at P.O. Box 130, 615 J.B. Hunt Corporate Drive, Lowell, Arkansas, 72745.
- 4. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR resided at 106 East Main Street, Bradfordsville, Kentucky 40009.
- 5. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR was a servant, agent and/or employee of defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC.
 - 6. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant J.B. HUNT

TRANSPORT, INC. was the owner of a motor vehicle with Oklahoma license plate number 2FW778.

- 7. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR operated the aforementioned motor vehicle.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR operated the motor vehicle with the permission and consent of Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC.
- 9. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR operated the aforementioned motor vehicle in the scope of his employment with Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC.
- 10. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR operated the aforementioned motor vehicle in furtherance of the business of Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC.
- 11. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. managed the aforesaid motor vehicle.
- 12. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR managed the aforesaid motor vehicle.
- 13. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. maintained the aforesaid motor vehicle.
- 14. At all times herein mentioned, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR maintained the aforesaid motor vehicle.
- 15. At all times herein mentioned, Plaintiff was the operator of a motor vehicle with New York State license plate number CZL2565.
 - 16. At all times herein mentioned, I-84 West, near Exit 8,

Newburgh, New York, was a public roadway, street and/or thoroughfare.

- 17. On August 25, 2006, Defendant JAMES B. TABOR was operating the vehicle owned by J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. at the aforementioned location.
- 18. On August 25, 2006, Plaintiff was operating her motor vehicle at the aforementioned location.
- 19. On August 25, 2006, at the aforementioned location, the motor vehicle owned by Defendant J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC. and operated by Defendant JAMES B. TABOR came into contact with the motor vehicle owned and operated by Plaintiff.
- 20. That as a result of the aforesaid contact, Plaintiff was injured.
- 21. The aforesaid occurrence was caused wholly and solely by reason of the negligence of the Defendants without any fault or negligence on the part of the Plaintiff contributing thereto.
- 22. Defendants were negligent, careless and reckless in the ownership, operation, management, maintenance, supervision, use and control of the aforesaid vehicle and the Defendants were otherwise negligent, careless, reckless and grossly negligent under the circumstances then and there prevailing.
- 23. That by reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff sustained severe and permanent personal injuries; and Plaintiff was otherwise damaged.
 - 24. Plaintiff sustained serious injuries as defined by

Section 5102 (d) of the Insurance Law of the of the State of New York.

- 25. Plaintiff sustained serious injuries and economic loss greater than basic economic loss as defined by Section 5104 of the Insurance Law of the State of New York.
- 26. Plaintiff is not seeking to recover any damages for which Plaintiff has been reimbursed by no-fault insurance and/or for which no-fault insurance is obligated to reimburse Plaintiff. Plaintiff is seeking to recover only those damages not recoverable through no-fault insurance under the facts and circumstances in this action.
- 27. This action falls within one or more of the exceptions set forth in CPLR Section 1602.
- 28. That by reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been damaged in sum which exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 29. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in the First Cause of Action with the same force and effect as though set forth herein at length.
- 30. On August 25, 2006, plaintiff owned the aforesaid motor vehicle bearing New York License plate number CZL2565.
- 31. As a result of defendants' negligence, plaintiff sustained property damage to said motor vehicle.
 - 32. As a result, plaintiff has been damaged in the amount of

TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff demands judgment in her favor against defendants, and each of them, on the First Cause of Action in an amount to be determined at trial, and which is in excess of the jurisdictional limits of all lower Courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction, on the Second Cause of Action in the amount of TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS, plus an award of interest, costs and disbursements.

Dated: New York, New York October 29, 2007

Yours, etc.,

MARK E. SEITELMAN, ESQ.

MARK E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C.

Attorneys for Plaintiff 111 Broadway, 9th Floor New York, NY 10006

(212) 962-2626

Our File No. 06-0376

ATTORNEY'S VERIFICATION

MARK E. SEITELMAN, an attorney duly admitted to practice before the Courts of the State of New York, affirms the following to be true under the penalties of perjury:

I am the principal of MARK E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C., attorneys of record for plaintiff. I have read the annexed Complaint and know the contents thereof, and the same are true to my knowledge, except those matters therein which are stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. My belief, as to those matters therein not stated upon knowledge, is based upon facts, records, and other pertinent information contained in my files.

The reason this verification is made by me and not plaintiff is that plaintiff is not presently in the county wherein the attorneys for the plaintiff maintain their offices.

Dated:

New York, New York October 29, 2007

MARK E. SEITELMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK		
CHATIE GRAHAM,	A	
	Plaintiff,	RULE 7.1 STATEMENT
-against-		
J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC., and		
JAMES B. TABOR,		
	Defendants.	
	X	

ROBERT A. FITCH, a partner with the firm of NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS, P.C., attorney for the defendant, J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC., and JAMES B. TABOR having an initial pleading in the above captioned matter, makes the following disclosure to the Court pursuant to Local General Rule 7.1 of the Local Rules for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York:

The only parties who the undersigned knows to have any interest in the outcome of the action on behalf of the removing defendant, other than the removing defendant, are the following:

- J. B.Hunt Transport Services, Inc.
- J. B. Hunt Transport, Inc.
- J. B. Hunt Corporation
- L.A., Inc.

Dated: New York, New York December 20, 2007

NEWMAN FITCH ALTHEIM MYERS, P.C.

By: ROBERT A. FITCH (RF2198)

Attorneys for Defendants J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC, 14 Wall Street New York, New York 10005-2101 (212) 619-4350 To: MARK E. SEITELMAN LAW OFFICES, P.C. Attorneys for Plaintiff
111 Broadway, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10006
(212) 962-2626

ase 1:07-cv-11446-FM Document 9-3 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK	Filed 01/31/2008 Page 1 of 4				
CHATIE GRAHAM,	CV 07-11446 (RMB/FM)				
Plaintiff, -against-	CONSENT TO EXERCISE OF JURISDICTION BY A UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE				
J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC., and JAMES B. TABOR,	OVER DISPOSITIVE MOTIONS DESCRIBED UNDER 28 U.S.C.				
Defendants.	§636(b)(1)(B)				
	X				
CONSENT TO EXER	RCISE OF JURISDICTION				
In accordance with the provisi	one of 28 II S.C. 8636(c) and Fed R. Civ. P. 73, the				

In accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. §636(c) and Fed.R.Civ.P. 73, the parties in this case consent to have a United States magistrate judge conduct any and all proceedings and enter a final order as to each motion identified below.

MOTIONS: Sua sponte Motion to Remand the Case to State Court

	Party Represented	Signatures	Date
1.	Chatie Graham	Wasself Benglifen	1/3908
2.	J.B. Hunt Transport Inc.	* VM	1/29/08
3.	James Tabor	× MAGA	1/29/08

ORDER OF REFERENCE

IT IS ORDERED that the above motion be referred to Judge Frank Maas, United States Magistrate Judge, to conduct all proceedings and enter a final order on such motion in accordance with 28 U.S.C.§636(c) and Fed.R.Civ.P.73.

Date	Hon. Richard M. Berman

USDC SDNY
DOCUMENT
ELECTRONICALLY FILED
DOC #:
DATE FILED: 1108

Hon. Richard M. Berman, U.S.D.J.

Cases 6:070 Ever 1144464 CRIMD-FMDocDimentin 9:13 7

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CHATIE GRAHAM,

Plaintiff,

Plaintiff,

Fileth 1034/24/00088, Pagrepa of of 2.

USDC SDNY
DOCUMENT
FILECTRONICALLY FILED
DOC #:
DATE FILED: 1/24/08

Plaintiff,

ORDER

J.B. HUNT TRANSPORT, INC., and

-against-

JAMES B. TABOR,

.

Defendants.

:

FRANK MAAS, United States Magistrate Judge.

Pursuant to a telephone conference held earlier today, it is hereby

ORDERED that:

- 1. A further telephone conference shall be held on April 4, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. Defendants' counsel is directed to initiate the call by dialing Chambers at (212) 805-6727.
- 2. A settlement conference shall be held on May 21, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom 20A, 500 Pearl Street, New York, New York.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York January 24, 2008

FRANK MAAS

07 Civ. 11446 (RMB)(FM)

United States Magistrate Judge

Copies to:

Honorable Richard M. Berman United States District Judge

Mirsade Bajraktarevic, Esq. Mark E. Seitelman Law Offices, P.C. Fax: (212) 962-5050

Robert A. Fitch, Esq. Newman, Fitch, Altheim, Myers, P.C. Fax: (212) 619-3622



Certification of Medical Record

Health Information at T	ertify that I am the <u>Lead HIM Specialist</u> of the Department of e St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital and that the medical record and complete copy of the hospital record of the admission, of
Patient Name:	Obstie Graham
DOB:	9/2/1964
Date(s) of Service:	8/25/NO ER
confinement in said Hospital business of said Hospital	transactions, occurrences and/or events of said patient's ital and that the entries were made in the regular course of and that it was in the regular course of such business to make the conditions, acts, transactions, occurrences, and/or events or hereafter.

Ë	Med. Rec. # L742524.:	ST LUKE'S CORM <i>).</i> Newburgh C	ALL HOSPITAL EMERGENCY annpus: RECORD:	Pt: Acct # H0D436452
PATIENT	Patient Name & Address GRAHAM.CHATIE 22 EDGEWOOD TERRACE NEWBURGH NY 12550 (845)561-0293 Birth Dt Age Sex M/S Race Relgn 09/02/64 41 F M AAM BAP Emergency-Notify GRAHAM KENNETH	Cnty ORAN Reg/Loc Fin-Cl A	Employer Name & Address VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA 1 GRAY COURT CHESTER NY (914)469-0724 ddm-Sce Regist Reg-Date Time Heans of Ar NA REG.MFS 08/25/06 2348 AUTOMOBILE Work-Phone	Soc Sec # 064-58-5575
GDAR	Guarantor Name & Address GRAHAM.CHATIE 22 EDGEWOOD TERRACE NEWBURGH.NY 12550 (845)561-0293	Rein SP Soc Sec # 064-58-5575	Guarantor Employer Name & Address VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA 1 GRAY COURT CHESTER.NY (914)469-0724	
I N S U R	Insurance Name Policy Number OXFORD HEALTH PLAN 800487302 ***PA USE ONLY** CARE 800487301 SELF PAY NO FAULT	Insured's Nam GRAHAM CHATIE GRAHAM CHATIE GRAHAM CHATIE	SP .	V TEMP: 98 7 I PUL: 88 T RESP: 20 A B/P: 140/89 E SAOZX: 99

Disposition: Disch Time:	Admit to: Rm	Bed	DX:	
E/R Physician Signature MADELL ALAN			Primary Care Physician PPOFETA GEORGE	Consult Physician

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08/25/06 2312 TOC
                             ER - Triage Documentation SLH
                         *****EMERGENCY ROOM TRIAGE RECORD*****
   Triage Time: 2312
Mode of arrival: Town of Newburgh Ambul.
                                                                             BP: 140/89
          Temp: 98.7 Pulse: 88
                                           Resp: 20
                                       *Pattern:
                                                                          SA02%: 99
                     Rhythm:
      Src:
                                                                          RA/02: RA
                                            PMD: ':
                                                                           LPM:
*Triage B(ENTER A, B, C) (D FOR LAMS)
 CC/HX: PT INVOLVED IN A MVC HIT FROM BEHIND PT CAR WAS MOVING FORWARD PT DENIS
        LOC SEATBELT USE REPORTED FROM: PT AMBULITORY: AT SCENE; PT C/O BILAT ARM
        PAIN NECK AND SHOULDER PAIN. PT ALSO C/O HEADACH. / .. TC
            *Pain Scale: 10
*Non Verbal observations:
                                                 L:
                                                         LMP:
                                                                       EDD:
            If Pregnant: G:
                              Pt: T:
                                           A:
                                                FHR Mode:
                                   FHR:
                       Wks:
             Prenatal Care:
                  Comments:
Requesting Mental Health Services?
                                               *Difficult Airway Identified:
Prior Medical History: HTN
                                                      ; ;
 Surg Hist/Past Hosp:
                                                                   WT: 204 LBs
                                                     HT:ft:
ALLERGIES/REACTIONS *: DENIED
                                                                   kg: 92.533
                                                        in:
                                                        cm:
 Immunization Status:
                                                    Tetanus: Y Date: UTD
                                (AGE 9MO-6YR)
        Lead Testing:
                                 Last menstruation:
  Head Circumference:
Sickle Cell Screening:
   *Recent Mammogram (within 2 years) Not able to ask/answer
CURRENT MEDICATIONS: (include Dose, Frequency, Last Dose & Time Taken)
*: BP MEDS
BARRIERS TO LEARNING Special Learning Needs: None
                           Primary Language: ENGLISH
  **Add Stroke Intervention Set for any patients exhibiting symptoms of stroke**
                                          Nurse Type ..
 Monogram Initials
                     Name
                   CRISCI, TONI
         N. TOC
 TOC
                                 GRAHAM, CHATIE (PRE ER)
                                                                             Page: 1 of 1
 Age/Sex: 41 F
                                                                 Printed 08/25/06 at 2316
                                         L.ER-
 Unit #: L742524
                                                            Period ending 08/25/06 at 2316
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                            St. Luke'sCornwall Hospital NUR
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O Respiratory Dietrosa (Fracture/Dislocation O Soft Tissue Injury O Heat O Amputation O Bleeding/Homomage O Cold
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O Moved to ambulance on stretcher/backboard	O Medication Administered (Use Continuation Form)
O Moved to ambulance on stair chair Cayalked to ambulance	O IV Established Fluid Cath Gauge
O Airway Cleared	O Mast Inflated @ Time) O Bleeding / Hemorrhage Controlled (Method Used:)
O Oral / Nasal Airway O Esophageal Obturator Airway / Esophageal Gastric Tube Airway (EOA/EGTA)	O Spinal immobilization Neck and Back O Limb immobilization O Fixation O Traction
O EndoTracheal Tube (E/T) O Dxygen Administered @ LP M , Method	O (Heat) or (Cold) Applied
O Suction Used O Artificial Ventilation Method	O Restraints Applied, Type
O C.P. R. in progress on arrival by: O Clözen O PD/FD/Other Hrst Responder O Other	O Baby Delivered @ Time In County O Alive O Stillborn O Male O Female
O C PR Started @ Time Time from Arrest Until C PR . Minutes	O Transported in Trendelenburg position
O EKG Monitored (Attach Tracing) [Rhythm(s)	O Transported in left lateral recumbent position Chansported with head elevated
O Defibrillation/Cardioversion No, Times O Manual O Semi-automatic DISPOSITION (Sea List) 57 (L. C. S. F. V-	O Other:
CDIVICE	DISP, CODE 2 5 7 CONTINUATION YES
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ST. LUKE'S	S CORNWALL HQSPITĄL	्मेळकाक्ष्याड ११९	£23.46
☐ CORNWAL		GPAHAH, CHATIE	
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		MEMORIL, ALAN	
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		UCTION TO THE PATIENT	
The transment that you received from t	he Emergency Room was an EMERGENCY THE	EATMENT ONLY, it was directed primarily to the your paragnet doctor (I) is difficult to recognize an	emergent problem. Emergency treatment is not at treat all alcanants of industry of threes in a circle
Wish it is also difficult to breat a NON EMER	and comprehensive medical care as rendered by IGENT or CHRONIC condition on an emergent be	isla in the Emergency Room	
1 nurvas o si su simomas Empopran pot	ur condition becomes werse and you cannot reach favor regress at sale do emergencia.	*	
VO RUOY disw transmission on principal	of hours and now unforeseeable complications m VN DOCTOR. Meanwhile follow the AFTER CA	are instructions indicated below: Co	udjejousa broga compistua eu bocas pousa à scris a jojjow-nb exemination auq treatment pà
	stes instruccionos y los instruciones significa bajo. EDICAL FOLLOW-UP CALL	·	x-ray as given to you by the Emergency
Medical Doctor on Call	Phone or	Room Physician is only a preliminary r	eport. The x-ray specialist raviews the x-ray
	Femily Health Center 583-8000	films and if there is a change in the die will be notified. Sus radiografies han si	ignosis, you and/or your personal physician do leidas en base preliminaria. La leida final
COMPENSATION CASES -C	ompensation cases are required to obtain		ossaño usted sera notificado de caulquier
tollow-up care by a private physician MEDITECH INSTRUCTION SHEET:	Call within two (2) days to make an appointment.	· INSECT BITES	STUBBED TOE/FRACTURED TOE
☐ BEḤĀVIOR HEALTH	DERMABOND	LACERATION	SUNBURN
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ALLERGIC BRONCHITIS	GASTRITIS	□ NURSEMAID'S ELBOW	TOOTHACHE
☐ ASTHMA ☐ BRONCHITIS (ADULT)	GENERAL DC INSTRUCTIONS HAND	OTITIS MEDIA	URI ☐ URINE RETENTION/CATHETER
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/EYE INJURY	HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE	SHOULDER DISLOCATION	WRIST INJURY
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☐ EMPLOYEE, NO WORK FOR ☐ 1 ☐ 2 D		103103	Filewed of.
Follow up with Specialist Dr.	nam Phone Stel-8	ruc o	NO WORK FOR DAYS
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For STD exposure, Orango County DLH 568-5			NO PHYS ED. FOR DAYS
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☐ The Doctor you have been referred to	, may not b	on covered in your insurance plan and you may b	e required to pay for the office visit. Since them
are many different insurance plans, an	d not every physician participates in every plan, t	we advise that you contact your insurance comp	any to verify which physicians are in your plan.
PAIH No Pain	Worst Pain		
0 1 2 3 4	5 6 7 8 9 10	VITAL SIGNS AT DC: TP	fi BP PO
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I HAVE RECEIVED AND UNDERSTAND	ABOVE INSTRUCTION SHEET/HABER REC	CIBIDO Y ENTIENDO LOS INSTRUCCIONES:	
PRESCRIPTIONS:	TO DIE TRIVING WHILE TAKING MEDICATION	_1 /	11, 11
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HPI 4	[HPI]		expression of the state of the
4	II ocai	llon, Duration, Co	Mexil A cut much 1/2, sticke back of the do worth
1-3	ASSD	c. S&S] □ Non Factors] □ Non	3 No head Thurs
1-3	1	-	
	Gener	al: MAL Ch	CIRCLE APPROPRIATE FINDINGS) IS Fever Malaise Wt Loss GU: W(NI) Dysuria Frequency Urgency Nocturia WS: WAII Back Pain Jame Path Myalgia Weakness
ROS	Skin:	Natmal Ra	h Sweaty Ilchy Laceration MS: WNL Back Pain Jent Pao Myalgia Weakness red Diplopia Photophobia Nauro: WDL Seizures Dizziness Headache Weakness
2-9	Eyes:		Blodic Com Throst Phintic Paych: Will Anxiety Depression Suicide
DRP	Resn:	DVIR Co	Head/Cold Intolerance SOB Hemoptysis Endocrine: WNL Thirsty Polyurla Head/Cold Intolerance Rain Palpitations Orthognea DOE Heme: WRL Bleeding Bruising
DRP	Cardii Gl:	ac :W)OL Chest WO¥L Abi	ain Palpitations Orthopnea DOE Heme: 선택 Bleeding Bruising Paln Constigation Diarrhea Nausea Vomiting
[DUL]	TAIL	other perlinent R	OS negative See Additional ROS in HPI:
[PFS]	Pat	ient is a Relum V Triane Notes Rev	sit (within lest 72 hours) ewed and Confirmed Unable to Obtain Hx Secondary to: History from:
Н	1 Peril 10 to	M	J is Nursing Veter [1] Old Medical Harotics Reviewed:
2-3	Dog I	ergles NKDA – l Varlical History:	Allergies: Tetanus: Up to Date LMP: 3 O GPAL Dieg
N/A	Past		
N/A N/A	Famil	y History: 1 History;	The garden of Positive Disease DBM □ Cancer □ TITN □ Other □ No Significant Family History □ Heart Disease □ DBM □ Cancer □ TITN □ Other □ Ot
T INVA 1	Vital	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	PULSE RESP. BP Pulse Oximetry Glucose Pain Scale
	Signs	980	10 140 146
	電響	Constitutional:	□ Wital Signs Reviewed (See Nurses Notes) □ Warm, Dry, Well Nourished □ No Distress □ Non-Toxic □ Other
		Eyes:	Denoting the Walt Clare Walt Company C
		ENT:	☐ Conjunctive WAL ☐ dos WAL
		Neck:	Supple DNo masses Etto tendemass Dirachea midline DNo JVD DNo stridor DThyroid Normal size and consistent
	JAE ST	Chest/Breest:	☐ Other College C5-Ce ☐ Chest symmetrical ☐ No deformities ☐ Non-tender to palpation
			□ No lumps or masses palpated □ Other □
	PA-	Respiratory:	Well-aerated bilaterally & Clear to A/P & No rales \(\Delta \) No rhonchi \(\Delta \) No wheezes
		Cardiovascular	☐ Other ☐ Cool heart tones ☐ RPH without ectopy ☐ ST, S2 WNL ☐ No murmurs ☐ No S3/S4 ☐ PMI WNL ☐ Cool heart tones ☐ RPH without ectopy ☐ ST, S2 WNL ☐ No murmurs ☐ No S3/S4 ☐ PMI WNL
PE 9-2		Cardiovascula	Pulses: DEqual bilaterally and strong in Dicarolid Differential Defaction areas Dicardo Distary Code possible
6-2			□ No bruit □ No thrilis □ Other
5		Abdominal:	CHartender (TG) and howel sounds in all quadrants No hepato-splenomegaly
			☐ No abdominal/inguinal hernia ☐ No masses ☐ No Rebound ☐ No Guarding ☐ No Pulsatile Mass☐ Rectal: ☐ No hemorrhoids ☐ Good sphincler tone ☐ No masses ☐ Gualac Negative
			□ Prostate Normal size and consistency □ Non-tender
	7	GU (Male):	□ Other □ Penis: □ Without lesions □ No discharge
	ENVOICEL	(1.3.5)	□ Scrotum: □Two testicles of normal size □ Descended □ Non-tender
	n.	GU (Female):	☐ Other ☐ Pelvic: ☐ External genitalia WNL ☐ No vaginitis ☐ No D/C ☐ No masses
	1. 5		OCERVIC DWNL DNo CMT DOs closed
			☐ Uterus: ☐ Non-tender ☐ No masses ☐ Size WNL. ☐ Adenexa: ☐ No masses ☐ Non-tender
			Other
		Lymphatic:	☐ No palpable nodes in 戶 Neck ☐ Axillae ☐ Inguinal region ☐ Other
	頂響	MS Spine /	Deat WNI ONe Midline Spinal Tenderness ONeck OTherapic Olumbar regions ONe determities
	静态主	Extremitles	☐Foll ROM ☐Non-tender ☐ No pre-libial ederna ☐ No cell tenderness ☐ Other
		Skin:	□Warm and dry □No-rashes □WNL color and texture □Non-tender □Skin turgor WNL □Fontanelle Flat □Cap retill WR
		Neurologic:	☐ Other ☐ Other ☐ Strength WNL ☐ Sensation WNL
		.,,	DTR's equal and active CINIH Stroke Scale
	響	Psychiatric:	☐ Other Orlented to: ☐ Person ☐ Time ☐ Place ☐ Answers questions appropriately ☐ No suicidal/homicidal thoughts
	at 1		□ Judgement WNL □ Mood and Affect appropriate □ Medically cleared
L	E+	<u> </u>	Other

ORANGE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Report Of Operation

Arden Hill Campus 4 Harriman Drive Goshen New York 10924 (845) 294-2189 x4688 Horton Campus 60 Prospect Avenue Middletown, New York 10940 (845) 342-7568

MR#: 450909 Patient: GRAHAM, CHATIE

Date: RM#:

Surgeon: JOHN P. HANDAGO, M D.

ASST:

IMPINGEMENT SYNDROME OF THE PREOPERATIVE DIAGNOSIS:

LEFT SHOULDER.

IMPINGEMENT SYNDROME, PARTIAL POSTOPERATIVE DIAGNOSIS:

TEAR OF THE ROTATOR CUFF TENDON, PARTIAL TEAR OF

ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR LABRUM

AND BURSITIS.

ARTHROSCOPY OF THE LEFT OPERATION:

SHOULDER WITH ACROMIOPLASTY

AND MODIFIED MUMFORD PROCEDURE DEBRIDEMENT PARTIAL TEAR OF THE ROTATOR CUFF TENDON, DEBRIDEMENT OF PARTIAL TEARING ANTERIOR AND POSTERIOR LABRUM. PARTIAL

BURSECTOMY.

GENERAL ENDOTRACHEAL WITH ANESTHESIA:

SUPRASCAPULAR BLOCK LEFT

SHOULDER

SHARMA, M.D. ANESTHESIOLOGIST:

PROCEDURE: The patient was brought to the OR and placed on the OR table in the supine position. A general endotracheal anesthetic was administered The patient was then turned into the right lateral decubitus position with the left shoulder 20 degrees retrograde from the vertical. Under aseptic conditions, a suprascapular block was applied to the left shoulder by Dr. Sharma

This was followed by DuraPrep and sterile drapes in the appropriate fashion. The left upper extremity was suspended from the arm holding device with 20 degrees forward flexion, 45 degrees abduction, 10 pounds traction. The usual posterior operative portal was created with a #11 blade and the blunt trocar was used to insert the arthroscopic cannula into the glenohumeral joint. There was some mild degenerative changes of the glenoid.

ORANGE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Report of Operation

Arden Hill Campus 4 Harriman Drive Goshen New York 10924 (845) 294-2189 x4688 Horton Campus 60 Prospect Avenue Middletown, New York 10940 (845) 342-7568

Patient.GRAHAM, CHATIE

MR#: 450909

Room:

Date:

Surgeon: JOHN P. HANDAGO, M.D.

ASST:

Page: 2

There was a partial tearing of the anterior portion of the rotator cuff tendon. There was partial tearing of the anterior and posterior labrum. At this point, the anterior operative portal was created in the usual fashion by advancing the scope into the triangle formed by the leading edge of subscapularis tendon and the biceps tendon.

When the Wissinger rod was prominent in the skin superior and lateral to the coracoid process, the skin was incised and a 7 mm operative cannula was inserted retrograde into the glenohumeral joint. The labrum was palpated with the probe, found to be intact anteriorly and posteriorly. There was a small tear anteriorly of the rotator cuff tendon.

The motorized shaving device was then inserted and the tear, anterior and posterior of the labrum, was debrided and the partial tear of the rotator cuff tendon was then debrided. Attention was then directed to the subacromial space where the scope was repositioned with the blunt trocar. The lateral operative portal was created with a #11 blade, approximately 2 cm inferior to the lateral edge of the acromion.

The 8 mm operative cannula was inserted into the subacromial space with the blunt trocar The ArthroCare motorized shaving device was then used to remove inflamed bursal tissue. This brought into view the acromion and this was then cleared of soft tissue with the ArthroCare as well as the lateral and inferior aspect of the clavicle.

The acromioclavicular soft tissues were also debrided. The acromionizer was then inserted and the acromion was resected from medial to lateral and anterior to posterior in a butcher block fashion. The lateral inferior aspect of the clavicle was also debrided. The motorized shaving device was then inserted and additional inflamed bursal tissue was debrided from the acromial aspect of the rotator cuff tendon.

There is no overt partial or full thickness tear. The acromial surface was devoid of any tear as opposed to the glenohumeral aspect of the rotator cuff tendon. At this point, bleeders were coagulated and a copious irrigation was performed. No additional pathology was identified. The inflow was turned off and the instruments were withdrawn.

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ORANGE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Report of Operation

Arden Hill Campus 4 Harriman Drive Goshen New York 10924 (845) 284-2189 x4688 Horton Campus 60 Prospect Avenue Middletown, New York 10940 (845) 342-7568

Patient GRAHAM, CHATIE

MR#: 450909

Room:

Date: Surgeon: JOHN P. HANDAGO, M.D.

ASST:

Page: 3

Wound closure was performed with 3-0 Polysorb in a simple mattress fashion. 20 cc of 0.25% Marcaine plain were injected into the subacromial space. Sterile dressings were applied. The patient was then awakened from her general endotracheal anesthetic. She was transferred to the recovery room stretcher and transported to the Recovery Room where she was seen in satisfactory condition. Estimated blood loss for the procedure was negligible.

Dictated by: JOHN P. HANDAGO, M.D.

Job; 276572 DD: 03/28/2007 DT: 03/29/2007 PMC/LB

05/29/2007 11:33 PAGE 08 Ø001/001

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HUDSON VALLEY IMAGING

affiliated with St. Luke's Cornwall Hospital

575 Hudson Valley Ave New Windson, NY (2555, Tel (845) 220-2222, Fax (\$45) 220 - 2241

RE:

GRAHAM, CHATTE

DOB:

1964/09/02 2007/02/07

DOE: ENCOUNTER#:

89339

READING DOCTOR:

REFERRING / ORDERING DOCTOR:

MARTINEZ, HILARIO, M.D. POLEPALLE, SUNITHA, M.D.

DESCRIPTION: MRI OF THE CERVICAL SPINE

INDICATION: Neck pain with left paresthesias.

TECHNIQUE: Multiple sugittal T1 and T2, and axis GRE-weighted images were obtained.

FINDINGS: The sagittal images demonstrate straightening of the cervical lordosis. The vertebral body height and signal within the bone marrow are within normal limits.

Evaluation of the cervical discs demonstrates a mild broad based posterior disc bulge at C4-5, C5-6 and C6-7 causing flattening of the ventral dural sac without spinal stenosis. There is mild uncovertebral joint hypertrophy predominantly involving the left C4-5 and C5-6 uncovertebral joints causing stenosis of the left C4 and C5 foramina Facet joints are intact. The cervicomedullary region appears normal. The cervical spinal cord demonstrates a normal caliber and signal intensity

The atlantoaxial joint relationship, odontoid process, prevertebral soft tissues, cranioverlebral junction and decipital condyles are normal.

IMPRESSION:

- 1. There is a mild broad based posterior disc bulge at C4, C5-6 and C6-7 causing flattening of the ventral dural space. No spinal stenosis is identified,
- 2 Normal cervical cord.
- 3. Mild uncovertebral joint hypertrophy as described causing mild stenosis of the left C4 and C5 foraming.

Hilario Martinez, M.D., Radiologist

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Physical Therapy Initial-Evaluation

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Andre Bassig, RPT 022509-1

Richard V. Escano, RPT 027887-1 Ø

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MID HUDSON PAIN MANAGEMENT & PHYSICAL THERAPY

SUNTTHA POLEPALLE, M.D.

Board Certified in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

ELECTRODIAGNOSTIC MEDICINE (EVG/NCV) NECK & BACK PAIN AND SPORTS & WORK INJURIES CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME

110 CRYSTA). RUN RD MIDDLETOWN, NY 10940 TEL: (845) 692-4270 PAX: (845) 692-5014 3078 RT 9W, STE 200 NEW WINDSOR, NY 12553 TBL: (845) 565-5943 FAX: (845) 565-5944

PATIENT: 9/2/106.	PRESCRIPTION D.O.B. 9/2/06 P.T. O.T.					
Diagnosis: [Facet Dysfunction Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Sacroiliac Dysfunction					
Precautions: [] Avoid Back Flexion [] Avoid Back Extension						
Therapy: [] Iontophoresis [] HEP [] US [] Superficial Heat [] Ice [] ROM Exercises [] Strengthening Exercises [] Deep Friction Massage	Phonophoresis Pelvic Stabilization Lumbar Stabilization Back School Instructions on Proper Body Mechanics Work Hardening Myofascial Release					
Duration: 2-3 x per week for 160 SP:rh 090801	weeks. Sunitha Polepalle, M.D.					





Physical Therapy Re-Evaluation

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TX Pack Strengthening BAPS Board Gait Training
Tens / ES
☐ US ☐ NMR ☐ Total-Gym ☐ McKenzie Ex ☐ ROM Ex ☐ Joint Mob ☐ Overhead Pulley ☐ Proper Body Mech
■ Stretching □ C-Traction □ Treadmill ■ HEP
□ Massage
, RPT
Andre Bassig, RPT Richard V. Escand, RPT Gesell Arbozo, RPT

Middletown, N.Y. 10940 Оffice: (845) 342-0000 Fax: (845) 342-2739 Pain Relief Center 52 -- 54 Dolson Ave

DATE:

DISABILITY CERTIFICATE

Has been under my professional care and is/was totally This is to certify that my patient, _

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Remarks:

Diagnosis: p

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Pain Relief Center 52 - 54 Dolson Ave Middletown, N.Y. 10940 Office: (845) 342-0000 Fax: (845) 342-2739

DISABILITY CERTIFICATE				
This is to certify that my patient, Charle GIANAN				
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MIDDLETOWN PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION, P.C.

54 Dolson Avenue Suite 300 Middletown, NY 10940 Tel: (845) 343-0292 Fax: (845) 342-2739

INITIAL PHYSICAL MEDICINE EVALUATION

PATIENT: DATE OF EXAM; DATE OF ACCIDENT:

Chatie Graham August 31, 2006 August 26, 2006

HISTORY OF PRESENT CONDITION:

Ms. Chatie Graham is a 41-year-old right-handed female who states that she was involved in a motor vehicle accident as a restrained driver who was rear-ended on 8/26/06. She denies head trauma or loss of consciousness sustained in the course of the accident During the impact, she hit her left shoulder forcefully against the driver's side door. Following the accident, she was brought by ambulance to St. Luke's Hospital. There she received x-rays of the cervical spine and the left shoulder and was then released. As her symptoms persist, she now comes under my care.

CURRENT COMPLAINTS:

The patient is presently complaining of severe neck pain and left shoulder pain, and markedly diminished mobility. She also complains of swelling of the left parascapular muscles. Neck pain radiates down the left upper extremity to the mid-arm and also into the left chest wall. In addition, she experiences numbness in her left hand. She complains of mid-back pain and she also complains of low back pain radiating down the left lower extremity to her calf associated with numbness.

She denies nausea, vomiting, dizziness, loss of visual acuity, or bowel or bladder difficulties

PAST MEDICAL HISTORY:

She fell down the stairs in 1998 injuring her right knee and sustaining a ligament tear, which required a surgical repair Hypertension

MEDICATIONS:

Anti-hypertensive medications Ibuprofen 600 mg q6h Flexeril 10 mg tid

ALLERGIES:

No known drug allergies

SOCIAL HISTORY:

Denies the use of tobacco or excessive alcohol.

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Patient: Chatie Graham

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Date: August 31, 2016

OCCUPATIONAL HISTORY:

She works as a computer technician and has been unable to return to work since the accident occurred

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

Well-nourished female who ambulates with an antalgic gait featuring a guarded posture. Cervical spine examination reveals severe tenderness to palpation and myospasms of the right-sided cervical spinal muscles. There is an effusion in the right parascapular area. There are trigger points in the thoracic paraspinal muscles. Cervical spine range of motion study shows forward flexion to 5/50°, extension to 2/60°, left rotation to 3/80°, right rotation to 0/80°, left and right lateral flexion to 5/45° bilaterally, Cervical compression test is positive for pain radiating to the right shoulder. Cervical distraction is negative.

Left shoulder examination reveals an effusion about the shoulder. Shoulder range of motion study shows forward flexion to 60/180°, abduction to 90/180° and internal and external rotation to 30/90°. There is weakness of the rotator cuff musculature rated at 4-/5. Impingement and Drop Arm tests are positive.

Lumbar spine examination reveals tenderness to palpation and myospasms of the lumbar paraspinal muscles bilaterally. Lumbar spine range of motion study shows forward flexion to 70/90°, extension to 20/30°, lateral flexion and rotation to 20/30° bilaterally. Nachlas sign is positive bilaterally, Straight Leg Raising sign is negative.

NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

Sensation is intact in the bilateral lower extremities. Strength is diminished for the left shoulder including the rotator cuff and deltoid muscles and is otherwise intact. Deep tendon reflexes are normoactive and symmetric throughout.

DIAGNOSTIC IMPRESSION:

- 1 Cervical radiculitis
- 2. Lumbar radiculitis
- 3. Left shoulder derangement
- 4. Thoracic myofasciitis

DISCUSSION/PLAN:

 Physical therapy two to three times a week consisting of stretching and strengthening exercises, heat pack, cold pack, ultrasound and TENS, therapeutic massage and myofascial release and gentle spine mobilization and traction.

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Patient: Chatie Graham

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Date: August 31; 2006

2. Home exercise program.

- 3. I have prescribed a shoulder sling in order to immobilize the left arm. The patient is wearing a soft cervical collar, which she will continue.
- 4. I have recommended ucing the neck at regular intervals, 20 minutes on followed by 20 minutes off.
- 5. Trigger point injections today (see Trigger Point sheet).
- 6. A follow-up physiatric evaluation is recommend within four weeks.

MIRIAM KANTER, M.D.

Board Certified, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

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MIDDLETOWN PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION, P.C.

54 Dolson Avenue Suite 300 Middletown, NY 10940 Tel: (845) 343-0292 Fax: (845) 342-2739

FOLLOW UP PHYSICAL MEDICINE EVALUATION

PATIENT: Graham Chatie
DATE OF EXAM: October 9, 2006
DATE OF ACCIDENT: August 26, 2006

HISTORY OF PRESENT CONDITION:

Ms. Chatie Graham is a 41-year-old right-handed female who was involved in a motor vehicle accident as a restrained driver on 8/26/06. Since the accident occurred, she has complained of neck pain radiating down the left upper extremity to her wrist. She also complains of low back pain, which radiates down the left lower extremity to her ankle.

MEDICATIONS:

Ibuprofen 600 mg tid

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

Well-nourished female who ambulates with an antalgic gait featuring a guarded posture. Lumbar spine examination reveals tenderness to palpation and myospasms of the paraspinal musculature. Cervical and lumbar spine range of motion are diminished. Cervical distraction test is negative while cervical compression test is positive. Nachlas sign is positive bilaterally. Straight Leg Raising sign is negative.

NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION:

Sensation is intact in the bilateral upper and lower extremities. There is weakness rated at 4/5 for the left deltoid, biceps and triceps. Strength is otherwise intact. Deep tendon reflexes are normoactive and symmetric throughout.

DIAGNOSTIC IMPRESSION:

- 1. Cervical radiculitis
- 2. Lumbar radiculitis

DISCUSSION/PLAN:

- Physical therapy two to three times a week consisting of stretching and strengthening exercises, heat pack, cold pack, ultrasound and TENS, therapeutic massage and myofascial release and gentle spine mobilization and traction.
- 2. Home exercise program.
- 3. I am scheduling the patient for EMG/NCV evaluation of the upper extremities to evaluate for a radiculopathy. There is strong clinical evidence to suggest the presence of a left sided cervical radiculopathy which has not improved or resolved with conventional therapeutic measures to date. The patient may be a candidate for

 Miriam E	Kanter, M.D.	P.M.R.	Board Certified Physiatrist
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Patient: Chatie Graham

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Date: October 9, 2006

cervical epidural injections dependent upon the results of these electro-diagnostic studies.

- 4. The patient saw a neurosurgeon, Dr. Fraser who also recommended EMG/NCV studies of the upper extremities.
- 5. A follow-up physiatric evaluation is recommended within three weeks.

MIRÏAM KANTER, M.D

Board Certified, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

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